What Was the Condition of Research Space in HBCUs?

In 1994, 31 percent of the S&E research space in the panel of 29 HBCUs was rated as "suitable for the most scientifically sophisticated research;" this represented a slight drop from the 34 percent of space rated this way in 1992. Nine percent of all space needed major repair/renovation or replacement (Table 6-3).

Table 6-3. Assessment of quality/condition of science and engineering (S&E) research facilities at Historically Black Colleges and Universities: 1988–1994

[Percentage of research space]

Condition of S&E research facilities	1988	1990	1992	19941
Total	100	100	100	100
Suitable for most highly developed and scientifically sophisticated research	36	31	34	31
Effective for most purposes	39	45	41	39
Requiring limited repair/renovation ²	18	18	17	21
Requiring major repair/renovation ²	7	7	8	9

¹ Data for this item and 1988, 1990, and 1992 are based on the 29 HBCUs included in the survey consistently since 1988.

What Was the Extent of Capital Projects at HBCUs?

Since the inception of the survey, the panel of 29 HBCUs experienced large decreases in expenditures for research space construction. In constant dollars, there was a decline of almost \$75 million in construction expenditures between fiscal years 1986–1987 and fiscal years 1992–1993. In fiscal years 1986–1987, the 29 HBCUs spent \$83.2 million (constant dollars); in fiscal years 1992–1993, these institutions spent \$8.6 million on construction projects. (See Table 6-4 on the following page.)